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have deemed it necessary to enforce, according to the imperial ordinance, No. 56, of the 5th month of the 27th year of Meiji (1894), the regulations for inspection of all vessels arriving from Hongkong or all ports on the coast of China, either direct or through intermediate ports, after having left or touched the above-mentioned ports, and that the Minister for Home Affairs has this day issued notifications to that effect, the translations of which are inclosed herewith.

Considering the urgent nature of the matter for the protection of both Japanese subjects and foreign residents, I beg to request that your excellency will take at once such necessary steps, according to my communication of the 16th day of the 6th month of the 27th year of Meiji, as to secure the observance of the said regulations by the people and vessels of your country.

I avail myself, etc.,

COUNT MUTSU MUNEMITSU,
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

NOTIFICATION.

To citizens of the United States in Japan and to commanders and masters of vessels bearing the flag of the United States in Japanese waters.

The undersigned hereby notifies all citizens of the United States in Japan, and the commanders and masters of naval and merchant vessels of the United States at the open ports of Japan, that they will be required, until further notice shall be given, to conform in all respects to the provisions of Notifications Nos. 36 and 37 of the department of home affairs of the Imperial Japanese Government, dated the 6th day of April, 1896, as given below.

[Translation.]

NOTIFICATION NO. 36 OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR HOME AFFAIRS.

It is hereby notified that, in view of the outbreak and gradual spread of the infectious disease pest which has appeared at Hongkong, medical inspection shall be enforced at the following ports, according to the imperial ordinance, No. 56, of the 5th month of the 27th year of Meiji, in respect to vessels arriving there from Hongkong, or all ports on the coast of China, either direct or through intermediate ports, after having left or touched the above-mentioned ports:

1. Ports of Nagasaki and Kuchinotsu, Nagasaki Prefecture.
2. Port of Shimonoseki, Yamaguchi Prefecture.
3. Port of Moji, Fukuoka Prefecture.
4. Port of Kobe, Hiogo Prefecture.
5. Port of Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture.

Medical inspection with respect to vessels bound for the port of Moji shall be enforced in the port of Shimonoseki, Yamaguchi Prefecture.

In case it is deemed necessary to disinfect vessels bound for the port of Kuchinotsu and other special export ports these vessels shall be required to go to the nearest disinfecting station.

YOSHIKAWA AKIMASA,
Minister for Home Affairs.

The 6th day, the 4th month, the 29th year of Meiji.

NOTIFICATION NO. 37 OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR HOME AFFAIRS.

It is hereby notified that, of vessels which are to receive medical inspection in accordance with Notification No. 36 of the Department for Home Affairs in the present year, those bound for the port of Kobe shall call and stop at Wadanomisaki, and those bound for the port of Yokohama at Nagahama, respectively, and shall receive inspection by the inspecting officers.

YOSHIKAWA AKIMASA,
Minister for Home Affairs.

The 6th day, the 4th month, the 29th year of Meiji.

Given under my hand at the Legation of the United States, Tokio, Japan, this 6th day of April, 1896.

EDWIN DUN,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America.